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Docket Management Branch (HFA-305)
Docket No. 98N-1038
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

April 7, 1999

Dear FDA,

I am opposed to the current industry efforts to reduce the size of labeling for irradiated foods. I also oppose disguising irradiation with false nomenclature such as "cold pasteurized".

I want to know if food has been irradiated!

So I urge you to:

- ◆ label all irradiated foods conspicuously with the word "Irradiated" and use the Radura symbol.
- ◆ label irradiated bulk produce with a prominent large sign so that consumers know that individual items have been irradiated.
- ◆ label irradiated foods permanently (with no expiration date) as other foods are labeled. I want to know that a food has been irradiated as I have questions about the procedure and the role it plays in the food supply.
- ◆ label irradiated foods conspicuously. Placing "irradiated" in the tiniest font allowed and buried in the ingredients list is misleading. //

Many of us oppose irradiation of food for very different reasons. But we should be able to agree that as consumers we must have the freedom to make our own choices. Please do your job and maintain prominent labeling for irradiated foods and ingredients.

Sincerely,

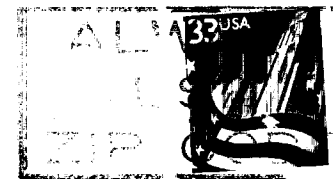
Christina H. Rodriguez
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— please allow the consumers — to choose for his/her self —

98N-1038

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